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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,253	04/01/2004	Julio A. Abusleme	108910-00129	6955

4372 7590 06/09/2005

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EXAMINER

ZEMEL, IRINA SOPJIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1711

DATE MAILED: 06/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/814,253

Applicant(s)

ABUSLEME ET AL.

Examiner

Irina S. Zemel

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1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mehan (of record) in combination with US Patent 3,767,634 to Scoggins et al., (hereinafter "Scoggins") or US Patent 4,513,129 to Nakagawa et al., (hereinafter "Nakagawa"). Or US Patent 6,391,975 to Abusleme et al., (hereinafter "Abusleme").

Mehan discloses foamable compositions comprising a flouropolymer and polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) nucleating agent. The flouropolymer disclosed by the reference is ethylene-chlorotrifluoroethylene (E-CTFE) copolymer having about 40-50 % of ethylene. The reference further expressly states that the copolymers may contain additional comonomers such as vinylidene fluoride, etc. See column 3, lines 42-45.

The reference furtherer teaches a process for preparing foamed articles by extrusion of the foamable compositions, as per claims 10 and 11. See illustrative examples. Illustrative examples further provide information regarding void percentage (% air) that correspond to the claimed amounts. Among suitable applications for the foamed product, insulation coatings are explicitly listed in column4, end products and in the abstract. The PTFE polymer disclosed in the reference is irradiated PTFE homopolymer or copolymers, with molecular weights (based on exemplified commecrical products) that correspond to the claimed limitations. The difference between the invention disclosed in Mehan and the claimed invention lies in the amount

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of co-monomers, i.e., ethylene content, in the claimed base E-CTFE copolymers with the amounts of E disclosed in Mehan being higher than the claimed amounts. However, the copolymers as claimed by the applicants with low content of E are well known in the art as evidenced by, for example, Abusleme, Nakagawa or Scoggins, and it is also well known in the art that the properties of E-CTFE copolymers vary with the amount of respective comonomers in the E-CTFE copolymers. See, for example, disclosure of Nakagawa in column 2, or examples of Scoggins expressly disclosing variations in mechanical properties depending of the E content of the polymer. Thus, choosing a different polymer with expected differences in properties and substituting it in the compositions disclosed by Mehan would have been obvious with reasonable expectation to achieve compositions with desired different properties for the applications where such properties are needed. The invention as claimed, thus, would have been obvious from the combined teaching of the above cited reference..

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Irina S. Zemel whose telephone number is (571)272-0577. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9-5.

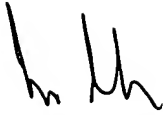
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on (571)272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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